

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To: WILLIAM G. BRUNS
POLSTER, LIEDER, WOODRUFF & LUCCHESI
763 SOUTH NEW BALLAS ROAD
ST. LOUIS MO 63141

FILE COPY 220

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT OR THE DECLARATION

(PCT Rule 44.1)

Form PCT/ISA/220 (January 1994) DO NOT MAIL

Date of Mailing
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

ROHO 6644WO

FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraphs 1 and 4 below

International application No.

PCT/US98/19903

International filing date
(day/month/year)

23 SEPTEMBER 1998

Applicant

ROHO, INC.

1. ☒ The applicant is hereby notified that the international search report has been established and is transmitted herewith.

Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:

The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the international application (see Rule 46):

When? The time limit for filing such amendments is normally 2 months from the date of transmittal of the international search report; however, for more details, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

Where? Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

2. ☐ The applicant is hereby notified that no international search report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect is transmitted herewith.

3. ☐ With regard to the protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:

☐ the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.

☐ no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.

4. Further action(s): The applicant is reminded of the following:

Shortly after 18 months from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in rules 90 bis 1 and 90 bis 3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication.

Within 19 months from the priority date, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (in some Offices even later).

Within 20 months from the priority date, the applicant must perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before all designated Offices which have not been elected in the demand or in a later election within 19 months from the priority date or could not be elected because they are not bound by Chapter II.

Facsimile No.

(703) 305-3230

Authorized officer AND Telephone No.

MILTON NELSON, JR.

(703) 308-2168

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

FILE COPY 210

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Form PCT/ISA/210 (first sheet)(July 1992) DO NOT MAIL

Applicant's or agent's file reference ROHO 6644WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION	see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/US98/19903	International filing date (day/month/year) 23 SEPTEMBER 1998	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 07 OCTOBER 1997
Applicant ROHO, INC.		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of ____ sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).
2. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (See Box II).
3. ☐ The international application contains disclosure of a nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing and the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing
 - ☐ filed with the international application.
 - ☐ furnished by the applicant separately from the international application,
 - ☐ but not accompanied by a statement to the effect that it did not include matter going beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed.
 - ☐ transcribed by this Authority.
4. With regard to the title, ☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:
5. With regard to the abstract,
 - ☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
 - ☒ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.
6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is:
Figure No. 17
 - ☒ as suggested by the applicant.
 - ☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
 - ☐ None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of first sheet(1))(July 1992)
FILE COPY - DO NOT MAIL

International application No.
PCT/US98/19903

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This international report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

The technical features mentioned in the abstract do not include a reference sign between parentheses (PCT Rule 8.1(d)).

NEW ABSTRACT

A modular backrest system (30) for a wheelchair (10) is removably attached to backrest posts (26) of the wheelchair. The backrest system includes a back support (34) that provides a surface against which the back of a wheelchair user rests, and a support chassis (32) mounted to the back support for supporting the back support at a desired incline with respect to the posts, and at a desired seat depth with respect to the seat. An attachment assembly (42) is further included that is operably connected to the support chassis at two locations and to the posts to allow the support chassis and back support to be readily removed from or attached to the chair. The particular back support employed in conjunction with the support chassis is based upon the support needs of the wheelchair user. One embodiment of the back support includes a backing plate, and a cushion or insert attached to a forwardly presented face of the backing plate (182) against which the back of the individual rests when sitting on the seat. Another embodiment of the back support includes a plurality of pads (300) adjustably attached to support tubes extending upwardly from the support chassis. Each pad is attached to at least one of the support tubes at a desired location by an elbow joint (338) that permits forward and rearward movement and side-to-side movement of the pad. Each pad is attached to the elbow joint by a ball and socket joint (342) that permits rotational movement of the pad with respect to the second member.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)(July 1992)
FILE COPY - DO NOT MAIL

International application No.
PCT/US98/19903

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(6) :A47C 3/025; F16C 11/00

US CL :297/284.1; 403/90

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : Please See Extra Sheet.

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

None

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

None

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X -- A	US 5,556,168 A (DINSMOOR, III et al) 17 September 1996 (17.09.96), see entire document.	1, 18-21, 23, 39-41, 69 -- 2-17, 22, 24-38, 70-73
X -- Y -- A	US 5,593,211 A (JAY et al) 14 January 1997 (14.01.97), see entire document.	1, 18-21, 23-25, 39-41, 62-64, 69-71 -- 72-73 -- 2-17, 22, 26-38, 65-68

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier document published on or after the international filing date	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation, or other special reason (as specified)	"G" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search
15 JANUARY 1999

Date of mailing of the international search report

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer AND Telephone No.
MILTON NELSON, JR.

(703) 308-2168

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of second sheet)(July 1992)
FILE COPY - DO NOT MAIL

International application No.
PCT/US98/19903

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y -- A	US 5,642,956 A (HALE) 01 July 1997 (01.07.97), see entire document.	43, 47-48 -- 26-38, 42, 44-46, 49-57, 60, 61, 74- 91
X -- Y -- A	US 4,636,000 A (NISHINO) 13 January 1987 (13.01.87), see entire document.	42 -- 43, 47-48, 58-61 -- 44-46, 49-57
X -- Y -- A	US 2,928,686 A (NEWKIRK) 15 March 1960 (15.03.60), see entire document.	74-75, 83 -- 77 -- 26-38, 42-57, 60- 61, 76-82, 84-89
Y -- A	US 3,293,671 A (GRIFFIN) 27 December 1966 (27.12.66), see entire document.	62-64 -- 65-68
Y	US 134,424 A (EVANS) 31 December 1872 (31.12.72), see entire document.	58-61
Y	US 5,007,676 A (LIEN) 16 April 1991 (16.04.91), see entire document.	72
Y	US 5,062,677 A (JAY et al) 05 November 1991 (05.11.91), see entire document.	73
Y -- A	US 4,565,345 A (TEMPLEMAN) 21 January 1986 (21.01.86), see entire document.	77 -- 78-81

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Form PCT/ISA/210 (patent family annex)(July 1992)

FILE COPY - DO NOT MAIL

International application No.

PCT/US98/19903

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Form PCT/ISA/210 (extra sheet)(July 1992)
FILE COPY - DO NOT MAIL

International application No.
PCT/US98/19903

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched

Classification System: U.S.

297/284.1, 284.3, 284.4, 284.8, 284.9, 224, 228.13, Dig-4, Dig-6, Dig-8, 352, 353, 354.12, 383, 361.1, 440.2, 440.1, 405, 406, 408, 391; 403/90, 56, 122, 128, 130, 131; 248/481